

July 27, 1973

DEAR FRIEND:

There is a dangerous precedent being attempted in the City of Berkeley. An outspoken, aggressive young lawyer has been marked for recall as a member of the City Council. He is Black and he is radical. Some people don't like his policies; some people don't like his manner. He's abrasive and he's change-oriented. So he's a great target for those who don't want change and for those who like their politics more polite and their minorities more meek and malleable.

D'Army Bailey is not being threatened with recall because of malfeasance in office, because of corruption or because of chicanery. The fight against him is being waged because of personality and politics and that sets a very dangerous precedent.

WHO WILL BE NEXT? It could be the white conservative on a legislative body dominated by radical ethnic and racial minorities. It could be the one woman--a feminist--on an all-male Board of Education. It could be the Senior Citizen persistently articulating the needs of the aged on a youth oriented Planning Commission. IT COULD BE ANYONE WHO SPEAKS OUT ON ANY ISSUE.

It is not necessary for you to love D'Army Bailey to oppose the recall; it is only necessary that you cherish the right to dissent, the right to express an unpopular opinion. It is not necessary for you to agree with D'Army Bailey's philosophy for you to oppose the recall; it is only necessary that you recognize what a successful recall will do to dampen the honesty of political debate and the willingness to work within the system to accomplish change.

Those of us who have signed this letter, and the many others who are working against the recall, are men and women from different political parties, of different races and ethnic origins, of different economic levels and age groups. We have committed ourselves to challenge this recall because we are deeply concerned with the implications of the frivolous use of the recall procedure on the political process.

D'Army Bailey was elected by the citizens of Berkeley in April of 1971; his record will be reviewed and evaluated by his constituents if he chooses to run for reelection in 1975.

We believe that no valid case has been made for recall and there is the real prospect that a successful recall would set a dangerous precedent. We need your help in planning and implementing a strategy for defeating the recall. We need your money and your talents.

If you have the foresight to look beyond the petulant statements of the recall proponents, you will want to join us at a cocktail party/discussion on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1973 - 4:30 P.M., at the HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, 5 EMBARCADERO CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. (SEE "SPIKES" PARTY ON BOARD)

We urge you to attend or to send your checks to: COMMITTEE AGAINST THE RECALL (C.A.R.E.) 3284 ADELINE STREET, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94703 or call (415) 655-0737,

Sincerely,

HON. JULIAN BOND  
HAYWOOD BURNS  
HAZEL DAVIS  
HON. RONALD DELLUMS

JOHN GEORGE  
D. G. GIBSON  
CARLTON GOODLETT  
AILEEN C. HERNANDEZ

JUDGE OTIS HIGGS  
MARY JANE JOHNSON  
YING LEE KELLEY  
HOWARD MOORE

HON. JOHN MILLER  
ELEANOR SPIKES  
DORIS THOMAS  
MAXINE USSERY